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HUMAN RIGHTS SUMMARY

ARGENTINA: CAMPORA INTO ASYLUM IN MEXICO

SOURCE: Press

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

(X) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ( ) In Part (X) In Full

( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to

Date Declassify on Reason

(U) Hector Campora, former Argentine president (May-July 1973), left Argentina for political asylum in Mexico on November 27. Since the military overthrow of Mrs. Peron's government on March 24, 1976, Campora had been a refugee in the Mexican Embassy in Buenos Aires.

INR Comment: Campora's fate had long been a contentious issue within the military. Many officers, particularly the so-called hardliners, were prepared to see Campora rot in the Mexican Embassy because during his brief presidential tenure he released a large number of terrorists jailed by the security forces between 1969 and 1973. The decision to permit his departure was prompted by evidence of a possibly malignant tumor. The medical basis for the move should drain the issue of much of its political significance and inhibit the emergence of the kind of tensions that surfaced after the September release of Jacobo Timerman.

INR/RAR: J. Buchanan

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